

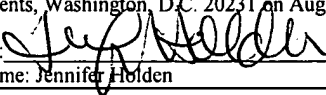
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

51764

Applicant: HIRAO et al. Examiner: unknown
Serial No.: 09/748,435 Group Art Unit: 1764
Filed: December 26, 2000 Docket: 10873.0632US01
Title: BLOOD TESTING TOOL

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on August 13, 2002.

By: 
Name: Jennifer Holden

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

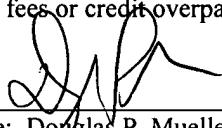
Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 8 References
- ☒ Other: European Search Report ✓
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: 
Name: Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No.: 30,300
DPM/jh



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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Applicant: | HIRAO et al. | Examiner: | unknown |
| Serial No.: | 09/748,435 | Group Art Unit: | 1764 |
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on August 12, 2002.

By:

Name: Jennifer Holden

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. At least some of the references were recently cited in a European Search Report mailed June 27, 2002.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided. Enclosed for the Examiner's information is a copy of the European Search Report.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

EPO document 0 045 476 corresponds with USP 4,816,224 A and USP 4,477,575 A

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a

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reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

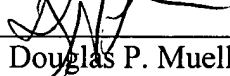
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Dated: August 13, 2002

By: 
Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/jh